

EMMET CRITICAL OF COMPENSATION LAW

Insurance Superintendent in Annual Report Warns of Defects.

APT TO PROVE TOO HEAVY

Provision for Paying Claims May Cause Delays and Disappoint Labor.

ALBANY, Feb. 22.—Warning is sounded in the annual report to the Legislature of the State Insurance Department against the injection of politics into the State commission which is to administer the workmen's compensation law.

"There is danger, in my judgment, under the compensation law as it now stands," says Superintendent Emmet in his report, "that the new State department which was created to carry out the State's part in the new system will prove in operation to be rather complicated as a piece of governmental machinery owing to the variety and number of the functions with which it has been endowed."

"Possibly the present arrangement will prove workable, if the administration of its affairs remains in the hands of men as competent, discreet and courageous as presumably those through the State commission will be rather complicated as a piece of governmental machinery owing to the variety and number of the functions with which it has been endowed."

See Peril in Payment of Claims.

Superintendent Emmet also expresses the belief that the provision calling for the payment of claims through the State commission may not prove as beneficial as the labor interests who insisted upon it expect.

"It would be better, in my judgment, if no such provision as this was incorporated in the law," says Mr. Emmet. "The experience of Michigan and Massachusetts shows that with a State industrial board passing upon disputed claims—but having nothing whatever to do with the actual payment of these claims—no unnecessary delay occurs on the part of the privately managed insurance companies and the mutuals in making the payments which the law requires."

"My honest belief is that the requirement to which I am now calling attention will under such circumstances accomplish nothing unless it be that it will import into the situation that friction and delay which it is designed, in the estimation of its advocates, to alleviate. It does this by the elimination of this provision from the law."

The report clearly shows that the Superintendent of Insurance has some misgivings as to the operation of the new law. He points out that the workmen's compensation commission, possessing so many judicial, administrative and insurance functions, will be bound to have conflict with the stock companies and the mutual insurance organizations and that if the judicial power is not used wisely and justly the ultimate result will be to drive these companies out of existence.

Advice to Private Companies.

Insurance companies are advised in this report to give efficient public service, if they are not to be further bound by restrictive legislation. On this point Superintendent Emmet says:

"If the people of the State cannot get what they require through private service they will resort to the State. The State may collect a service which has been imperfectly performed by its members. This has happened recently in the field of compensation, the insurance business and elsewhere in a minor degree, and it is predicted that this remedy will be frequently invoked as time goes on. The one effective weapon which the companies have in their hands is their ability to give efficient service so that State service will be uncalled for."

WIGAMIST FORCES OWN ARREST.

Wearies of Second Sojourn With His First Wife.

This concerns the matrimonial adventures of Arthur C. Dubord, as he and a couple of his wives told the story last night in the 10th street station, where he was taken into custody on a charge of bigamy. Dubord is an insurance broker with an office at 55 John street and is 33 years old.

In 1901 when he was 20, he married Carrina Matthews of Boston, and they went to live in New Haven. They separated after the birth of a son in 1904 and Dubord came to New York, became manager of a cigar store, and married Jeanette Garland, whom he married in 1906. They lived at 2 Arden street.

Wife No. 1 came to New York last September and met her husband and wife No. 2. She told wife No. 2 she had not divorced Dubord and insisted that she have her husband back pending the settlement of a suit for divorce. This was agreed upon, and Dubord and wife No. 1 went to live at Lloyd Court, 200 West 103rd street.

WINS QUERER FLYING BET.

Eugene A. Berry, Jr., Beats Palm Beach Altitude Record.

PALM BEACH, Fla., Feb. 22.—As a result of a bet made in the Palm Room last night Eugene A. Berry, Jr., of Hot Springs, Va., broke the Palm Beach altitude record this afternoon, flying with William T. The aviator, Stephen McGorden, in his Curtiss flying boat. The record was taken officially.

It was a fine afternoon and a big crowd from the hotels went to the lake and watched the race until it looked the size of a man's hand. The bet was with Perry A. C. Hall, Harvey Bloomer and G. W. Grandin of New York, the terms being that one of the four to be decided by draw should arrive at the Breakers (today) otherwise the man making the attempt was to buy flights for all the rest. Miss Dorothy Kohli of Chicago also made a flight today.

Scores of people spent to-day yachting on Lake Worth, generally with a luncheon or tea at the Houseboat. Aymar Johnson gathered a crowd this evening and went there, his guests including Mr. and Mrs. Tom M. Carnegie, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin H. Fittler, Mr. and Mrs. C. Jackson, Miss Katherine Haldwin, Miss Julia Edey, Miss Constance Robinson, Mrs. Frederick Edey, Miss Lillian Hyde, Russell C. Colt, Miss Louise Witherbee, Miss Helma Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. Artemus Holmes and Mr. and Mrs. William H. Simons.

PAGEANT TO UNITE RACES ON EAST SIDE

People's Institute Hopes Festival Will Amalgamate by Creating New Ideals.

A pageant on New York's East Side will directly concern hundreds and touch innumerable thousands of people. It was told yesterday by John Collier of the People's Institute.

Mr. Collier spoke at the service of the American Pageant Association in the Church of the Messiah, Thirty-fourth street and Fourth avenue.

"This particular pageant won't be ready for another year, at least," he said, "but the notion of it common to the work toward a common ideal among men and women of a dozen races, whom all our social service has not been able to fuse.

We count twenty different peoples on the East Side. They have brought into groups. But this pageant will actually bring them together. We will aim to symbolize America in the pageant as the broader and more organic of a new united race. It will be necessary to show the dress, manners, customs and qualities of all the peoples from whom the new race is to come.

Industry, riding roughshod over families, neighborhoods, the church and racial strife, has made the problem of social regeneration not one of eugenics or other breeding but a matter of salvaging human institutions. Whether that or new institutions must be created to fill the place of lost social life.

Addresses were made by the Rev. John Haynes Holmes, pastor of the church; William Conway Langdon, chairman of the pageant conference; the Rev. Arthur Ketcham, rector of St. George's Church, Williamsbridge; and Arthur Farwell, composer and director of the music in the city's parks. Tertius Noble, organist of St. Thomas's Church on Fifth avenue, played the triumph music from the pageant of York, his own composition.

Clifford Adams, organist of the church of the Messiah, played two songs from Mr. Farwell's music to the pageant produced at Darien, Conn.

ROBBED OF A MOUNTAIN TOP.

Verona Will Try to Force Montclair to Give It Back.

VERONA, N. J., Feb. 22.—So that Verona may get back a valuable section of the State toward which the citizens declare this municipality was robbed of eight years ago Mayor David A. Slayback has had a bill drawn which will be introduced in the New Jersey Legislature this week.

BURGLAR RUNS AWAY WITH HIS CAPTORS

Gets Policeman Into Auto and Forces Chauffeur to Drive.

BOTH BOUND TO A TREE

Fashionable Thief Leaves Them Trussed Up for More Than an Hour.

SUMMIT, N. J., Feb. 22.—A handsome, well dressed burglar who carried a stick and used good English subjected a local policeman and a negro chauffeur to an unpleasant experience last night.

When two policemen tried to arrest him he covered them with a revolver, made the chauffeur of a passing car take him and one of the policemen for a ride, and then forced the chauffeur to bind the policeman to a tree. He himself tied the chauffeur up and they stayed tied for an hour and a half, while he made good his escape.

The policemen are John J. Gannon and William George. They were assigned to patrol the streets in plain clothes because of the number of recent burglaries here. George has only been a regular on the force for one week.

Last night Gannon and George saw the tall burglar, dressed in a suit and wearing a hat, who whistled cheerily as he walked. In one hand he carried a walking stick; in the other a suit case, which was heavy enough to bend him over.

Gannon and George stopped him, and asked him who he was. He gave them his name, which they forgot in the excitement of subsequent events, and told them he was employed as a butler by A. J. Ross of Brantwood.

Wouldn't Open Suit Case. Gannon and George wanted to see what was in the suit case, but the man said it was none of their business; that he could satisfy them he was a respectable man, and that was enough for them.

While the three were talking an automobile owned by Edward Escher of Hobart avenue, Summit, came along. Russell Bland, a negro, drove it. He stopped and became interested in the situation. Then Bland suggested that the three of them hop into his car and he would take them over to Mr. Ross's home so that the stranger's statement could be verified.

This suggested good to the policemen, and George stepped into the tonneau of the car, and the man followed. Gannon was preparing to follow him when the man dropped his stick and suit case and drew two revolvers.

"You stand off there," he said to Gannon. "If you make a move I'll shoot." This was for not with this he pointed his gun. Then he told Bland to drive along, and left Gannon standing in the road. Bland had no inclination to do anything; he was busy with the wheel of his car, and was unarmed. The man kept both George and Bland close to him.

He made Bland drive almost to the Short Hills station, and then made him double back and turn up a little used road. They had gone almost a mile from the main highway when the automobile became stuck in the snow.

Both Captives Bound. The man ordered George and Bland to leave the car. Then he made Bland tear up the floor mats, and bind George to a tree. He stood close to him, and Bland did his work well. Then he himself tied Bland to the tree, with the strands of lap robe. He found some wire in the trunk of the car, and made the bonds of the two men still more secure.

When the job had been done to his satisfaction he picked up his suit case and his stick and left them. Bland and George were left alone. Bland tried to free himself, but he was unable to do so. He was silvery as jewelry in the trunk of the car.

Meantime Gannon had notified police headquarters, and an automobile filled with policemen scoured the roads through the snow. Short Hills police were ordered to find a trace of the supposed burglar of George and Bland. This car got back to Summit at about midnight.

George and Gannon worked away at their bonds, and George managed to free himself at 11:30, after he had been tied up for more than an hour and a half. He soon freed Bland, and they tried to free the burglar. It was stuck too tight in the bushes. They both tried to get back to summit, arriving at 12:30 this morning.

Both policemen and Bland believe they would recognize the burglar. It is supposed that the man got his loot by robbing the home of Max Smith, 23 Montmouth street, Newark, where \$10,000 worth of jewelry was taken last night.

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\$2,535,270 FOUND; YES, AND BY THE CITY

Prendergast, Digging in Musty Ledgers, Uncovers Long Lost Surplus. GOES BACK TO TWEED DAYS Big Steals Revealed in Building of the "Tweed" Court House.

The city of New York has in its pockets \$2,535,270.93 that it didn't know of, or at least was not sure of. So Comptroller Prendergast reports to the Board of Estimate, after blowing the dust off the musty books known as the ledgers and analyzing the figures of old transactions, some forgotten, some not brought back as far as fifty years ago.

For a long time there has been talk of peering into these volumes, to see just what they revealed and to clear the accounts, but Mr. Prendergast is the only man who has kept at them to the last page.

Adding up the surpluses that bobbed up here and there he found the total to be \$2,535,270.93, against which stand deficits of \$1,271,326.15, leaving the net surplus \$2,535,270.93.

Of the deficit revealed by the investigation \$700,987 was in the fund set aside for building the "Tweed" Court House. The money spent without authorization, in excess of county bonds issued for Court House construction, part of the deficit, \$165,350, was due to the failure of the Marine National Bank and the North River Bank, both of these banks being depositories of city money. The Marine Bank went up as part of the connection attending the failure of ex-President Ulysses Grant's firm, Grant & Ward, in 1854.

Mr. Prendergast says of the Court House deficit: "The examination indicates that it was merely the amount expended from this particular county bond fund in excess of the proceeds of the bonds issued, which amounted to \$2,535,019.97. In addition to this amount there was included in the budget for several years appropriations for the Court House aggregating \$1,750,000, all of which was expended.

"In 1871 a sub-committee of the Joint Investigating committee of Supervisors and associated citizens estimated the cost of buildings and furnishings of the County Court House up to that time at between \$11,000,000 and \$12,000,000. These monies were drawn from several funds existing at the time without regard to the specific purpose of the funds. The sub-committee also submitted an estimate of the value of the interior fittings and furniture of the building, as compared with the cost, which gave the cost as \$7,250,466.81 and the value as \$624,180.40.

"The Board of Supervisors of 1873 pronounced the County Court House a magnificent structure. In the report of their proceedings we also find a statement that four commissioners were appointed in 1870 custodians of \$600,000 for the purpose of completing the Court House, but that they were unable to do so. The report for which it was designated they appropriated it to their own use and that the sum of \$432,916.64 had been traced to the private pocket of one of the commissioners.

Ordinarily the \$2,535,270.93 surplus verified by the Comptroller would be transferred to the general fund for the purpose of covering the deficit, but it will stay in the suspense account until a meeting of old accounts of the city of Brooklyn is completed. It is believed that a book deficit will be found in Brooklyn.

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